

## EBA ARMENIA NEWSLETTER

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF

N 11

#### **EBA ARMENIA!**



## CONSOLIDATION OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN ARMENIA EU PROJECT

PE TER GJORTLER TEAM LEADER



The German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation (IRZ) was established as a registered association in May 1992 on the initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Justice. The establishment was based on requests from countries of Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe for assistance with reforms.

Together with Expertise France and the Court Administration of Latvia, IRZ implements the project on Consolidation of the Justice System in Armenia. The main objective is to support realisation of the Strategy on Judicial and Legal Reforms 2019- 2024 in line with international standards and EU best practices on quality justice. <a href="https://www.irz.de/index.php/en/">https://www.irz.de/index.php/en/</a>



#### **NAIRIAN**

ANAHIT MARKOSIAN FOUNDER



«Nairian» CJSC was founded in 2014.

Nairian is a premium and all-natural cosmetics company based in Armenia. Their products are 100% plant based, never contain harmful chemicals, and are always free of synthetic fragrances and dyes. By harnessing the power of nature and applying scientific methods, Nairian offers a means to look and feel beautiful, while maintaining your health and well-being. Nairian is represented in the USA, Canada, Russia, UK and Europe

https://www.nairian.am/ https://www.facebook.com/nairiancosmetics

#### **EBA EXECUTIVE BUSINESS BREAKFAST"**



#### **GROUP** AND **EUROPEAN** OF COMPANIES **BUSINESS ASSOCIATION** (EBA) **DISCUSSED INVESTMENT** IN **ARMENIA OPPORTUNITIES AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

Ensuring business stability and continuity, attracting international investment, unprecedented public expectations and the social burden are key issues for the business community in post-war Armenia. In this context EBA's Grant Member Galaxy Group of Companies and European Business Association Armenia organized a meeting of business breakfast format to discuss how the professional community could unite efforts to provide comprehensive solutions to the nowadays problems.

Members of the EBA welcomed the newly appointed Ambassador of Italy to Armenia HE. Alfonso Di Riso. H.E. made an opening speech on promoting the investment climate and potential cooperation between Armenian and Italian representatives of private sector.

Executive Director of the European Business Association Armenia Diana Sarumova expressed her gratitude to all participants, emphasizing the importance of joint collaboration and cooperation with the international institutions. Special gratitude was directed to the Management of the Galaxy Group of Companies for their contribution to economic development and job creation in Armenia.

She welcomed the newly appointed Ambassador of Italy to Armenia and expressed her gratitude to economic attachés of other EU MS embassies for active cooperation, noting that the Association is always open for suggestions and new ideas related to investment climate improvement. She assured that the EBA will continue to contribute to development of business environment of Armenia and the promotion of external investments.

"We attach great importance to cooperation with the European business community both in terms of implementing joint projects, as well as discussing new ideas and exchanging knowledge. In this context, the role of the European Business Association in Armenia is invaluable, it is a key partner for the Galaxy Group of Companies," said Aram Khachatryan, Co-Founder and CEO of the Galaxy Group of Companies.

During the meeting Director for Strategy and Innovations of Galaxy Group of Companies, Edgar Karapetyan presented business portfolio and projects of the Company. Chief Communications Officer of the company Shushan Harutyunyan presented business analytics of the Group, the recent year's indicators on societal perceptions of business and the trust indexes on other institutions. Representatives of international organizations and economic attachés of the embassies were interested in the business analytics report and projects of "Galaxy" a lot. (1) European Business Association Armenia - Posts | Facebook









Galaxy Group of Companies was established in Armenia in 1999 and throughout its 20+ years of operations created and developed 15 business units in Armenia, Georgia and Belarus. The success factors of all companies have been industry innovation, effective team involvement and the responsible business culture developed on the basis of continuous learning. The founders of Galaxy Group of Companies are Aram Khachatryan, Gurgen Khachatryan and Artyom Khachatryan. At present, the number of employees in Galaxy Group of Companies exceeds two thousand, and various social responsibility programs in the fields of education, innovation and social improvement are a key component of the company's operational work.

https://galaxygroup.am/





15 June 2021

## EBA introductory meeting with the newly appointed Ambassador of Italy to Armenia



On 15 June EBA Honorary Advisor (former Ambassador of Italy to the Republic of Armenia) Mr. Giovanni Ricciulli, EBA Chairman and Director of Italian-Armenian Business Association Mr. Levon Israyelyan and EBA Executive director Ms. Diana Sarumova had a meeting with the newly appointed Ambassador of Italy to the Republic of Armenia HE Mr. Alfonso Di Riso.

Main agenda, upcoming plans and activities of association as well as points for cooperation have been discussed during the meeting.

## EBA joint meeting with the Ministry of Economy Economic Outlook 2021

EBA conducted Economic Outlook 2021 online Event joint with the Ministry of Economy.

Opening speech was made by the Head of EU Delegation to Armenia, H.E. Ambassador Andrea Wiktorin.

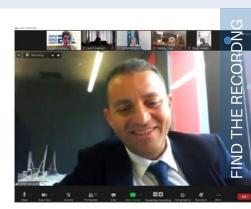
Minister of Economy of RA Mr. Vahan Kerobyan made a presentation and answered questions of EBA members.

See the full video of the meeting <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hC4EafBU174">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hC4EafBU174</a>













6 July 2021

## EBA meeting with Ruben Vardanyan Discussing the Future of Armenia

On 6 July 2021 European Business Association, AmCham Armenia, DWV, CCI France Armenie, Armenian British Business Chamber jointly organized a meeting-discussion with Ruben Vardanyan, who is the Founder of the FUTURE ARMENIAN initiative.

Ruben Vardanyan is an Armenian-born Russian entrepreneur, venture philanthropist, and investor, cofounder of Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity and Future Armenian public initiative, and UWC Dilijan College.

During the discussion, Ruben Vardanyan presented The FUTURE ARMENIAN public Initiative and its 15 goals. He talked about the issues, challenges, and opportunities of the education system of Armenia, the relationships between Armenia and the Diaspora, investment environment, business promotion, and charity.

Read more <u>European Business Association Armenia - Posts (facebook.com)</u>













26 June 2021

## EBA joint networking event with InterNations in Armenia hosted by EBA member

#### (3) Best Western Plus Congress Hotel | Facebook

On 26 June 2021, EBA Armenia joint with InterNations in Armenia organized a networking event at Congress Hotel. The event was attended by EBA Members and representatives of International Expats that are working in Armenia creating a unique networking environment.













13 June 2021

### EBA MEMBER COCA-COLA HELLENIC ARMENIA IS CELEBRATING ITS 25 YEARS ANNIVERSARY IN ARMENIA

On 13 June EBA Armenia executive staff and members participated Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company Armenia 25 Anniversary in Armenia. During the celebration reception main results and development plans have been presented to attendees.

Read more ... European Business Association Armenia - Posts | Facebook









06 April 2021

### EBA MEMBER SCHNIDER GROUP HOSTING A NETWORKING MEETING Armenia, an ideal bridge between the EU and the EEAU: Ulf Schneider

Leaders like Ulf Schneider, SCHNEIDER GROUP President and Founder, discern a viable path forward to the new reality, and hence plan for a post-pandemic, and in Armenia's case also post-war future, even if the timing may still seem a little hazy. As the chairman of the Business Initiative (the Lisbon-Vladivostok Initiative) he looks to create a common economic space from Lisbon to Vladivostok, to bring the EU and the EAEU closer together economically, and he sees Armenia as the ideal bridge country, which is a member of the EEAU on the one hand, and has a cooperation agreement with the EU on the other hand. Besides, "The relations between Russia and the EU need a moderator, which could be Armenia," he notes. Read the full article here <a href="https://bit.ly/3dAwaOn">https://bit.ly/3dAwaOn</a>





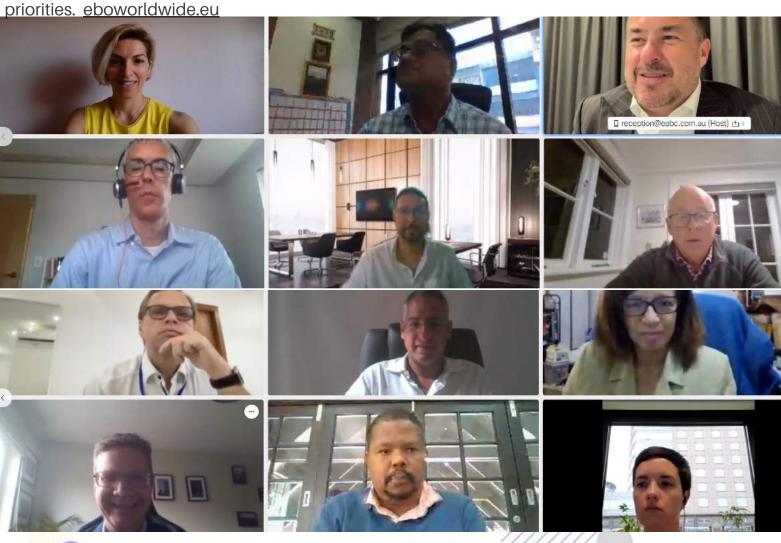
## European Business Organization World Wide Network Annual General Meeting 2021



On 21 June 2021, EBA Armenia together with 43 other EBOs from all over the world attended EBOWWN Annual General meeting. The first session was largely focused on internal EBO issues, including reports from the EBO Board; reports from each of the network's six (6) geographical regions – Africa, Americas & Caribbean, ASEAN, East Asia & Pacific Europe & Central Asia, and West & South Asia; and an important update from Vladimir Zuberec from DG GROW on the new multi-annual financial framework (MFF).

The second session included presentations and discussions from officials from DG GROW, EEN, DG Trade and DG INTPA (formerly DG DEVCO).

EBOs were made aware of the different programmes being developed and soon to be implemented across the world through various instruments, for which EBOs may be in a position to apply to become involved – either as delivery partners or in some other supporting role. As was indicated to us during the presentations, it is vitally important that EBOs engage with their respective EU Delegations to ensure that they are aware of proposals already in motion, and/or to develop options for programming in their market to support business opportunities aligned with Commission





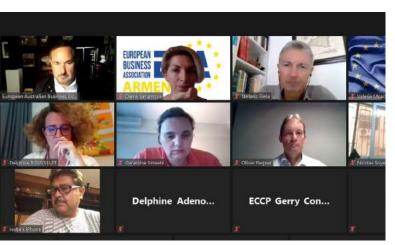


23 June 2021

#### **EBO-EISMEA Enterprise Europe Network Partnerships Meeting**

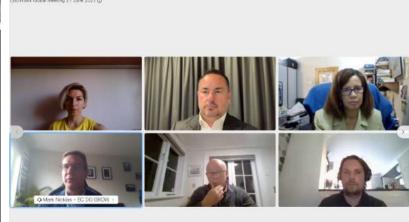
On 23 June,

Follow-up working session has been arranged with Thomas Steiert from EISMEA to discuss the next call for the European Enterprise Network (EEN) Partnerships.













EBA Armenia participated in 'UPDATE ARMENIA: INVESTMENT CLIMATE, GROWTH SECTORS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES' webinar Organized by the Swiss Embassy in Armenia Joint with the Chamber of Commerce Switzerland.

On 27 April EBA participated a meeting with Swiss business community, organized by the Swiss Embassy in Armenia joint with the Chamber of Commerce Switzerland. The webinar was organized under the topic of "Update Armenia: Investment Climate, Growth Sectors & Business Opportunities" with H.E. Mr. Vahan Kerobyan, Minister of Economy of the Republic of Armenia, as the keynote speaker.

Among main participants were minister of Economy and EBA Member, Schneider Group executive director Ms. Diana Movsesyan, who made a presentation on the main highlights of new business registration in Armenia.

Main opportunities of doing business in Armenia have been discussed during the meeting/webinar.



# EBA ARMENIA NETWORKING EVENT HOSTED BY EBA MEMBER BURO CLUB

#### (2) BŪRO work'n'roll | Facebook









## EBA AND MINSITRY OF FINANCE JOINT MEETING "PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ISSUES AND EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES"

European Business Association has conducted online awareness session to introduce changes and existing opportunities in the Public Procurement System. The meeting has been conducted in the scope of EU Project "Strengthening EU Business development in Armenia".

The main objective of the online meeting was to make awareness regarding updates and opportunities of the Public Procurement System and present new opportunities to companies that are not aware about changes done and have concerns related to the fair competition and information transparency (especially for foreign investors). Main concerns were presented during interviews with business representatives in the scope of EBA regular market exploratory study in the frame of the EU Project. The survey results demonstrated that majority of companies' owners/managers don't have an appropriate access to information and equal opportunities sometimes. There is also no information in English, thus related difficulties are existing for foreign investors while applying to the public tenders.

Updates and discussion were presented by Mr. Sergey Shahnazaryan, Head of the Procurement Policy Department of the RA Ministry of Finance.

The opening speech was made by Mr. Karen Azaryan, Trade Officer at the Delegation of the European Union to Armenia.

See the full video here <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxZ3orbtTNY&t=3s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxZ3orbtTNY&t=3s</a>





#### EBA Armenia Participated Eastern Partnership Business Days

EBA Armenia attended an online event of 'Eastern Partnership Business Days 2020' organized by the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The EU Ambassador Andrea Wiktorin made a welcoming speech, emphasizing the important role of the EU-Armenia business and investment relations for the economic development of Armenia and encouraging businesses to further explore opportunities for collaboration, as, in many vibrant sectors, there is still potential for the businesses in Armenia to deepen their participation in the EU value chains.

The meeting was attended by public officials and research-oriented companies, such as Berlin Economics and others.











Eastern Partnership Business Days in the framework of the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union digital

Eastern Partnership Business Days in the framework of the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union December 2020

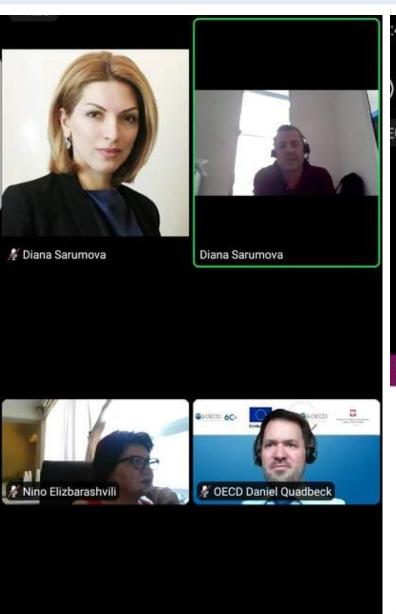
EASTERN PARTNERSHIP OF THE EU - ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN VALUE CHAINS

Monday, 14" December 2020 10.00 – 11.30 am (CET): Armenia / as of 17 November 2020

## Promoting SME digitalisation in the Eastern Partner countries OECD EBA Member Good Credit conducted a presentation about Armenia

On 21 June 2021, OECD represented its study on SMEs and Entrepreneurship, particularly The Digital Transformation of SMEs. According to the study, the SME digital gap has increased inequalities among people, places and firms, and there are concerns that the benefits of the digital transformation could accrue to early adopters, further broadening these inequalities. Enabling SME digitalisation has become a top policy priority in OECD countries and beyond. The report looks at recent trends in SME digital uptake, including in the context of the COVID-19 crisis. It focuses on issues related to digital security, online platforms, blockchain ecosystems, and artificial intelligence. The report identifies opportunities, risks of not going digital, and barriers to adoption. It looks to concrete policy action taken worldwide to speed the SME transformation and raises a series of considerations to advance the SME digital policy agenda.

EBA member Artashes Tonoyan (Executive Director of Good Credit Universal Credit ORganization) presented practice and experience of SME digitalization in Armenia.









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